CANADIAN Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

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Sunday Shows? 'Nix!'—Canada

Young People and Cities—Yes Oldsters and Small Towns—No

The Canadian public doesn't want Sunday Shows, according to the results reached by the Canadian Institute of Public Opinion and printed in the Toronto Daily Star and other papers. The Institute is connected with the Gallup Poll.

Opinion wasn't divided very much, however. Fifty per cent of the public said no, 44 per cent said yes and six per cent were undecided. And Quebec, where they have Sunday shows, was 60 per cent for, seven per cent undecided and the rest opposed. Also the young people and city dwellers

(Continued on Page 2)

Renovation for Timmins House

The closing of the Cartier Theatre, Timmins, Ontario, which has been showing top second-runs, will cause the management of the town's other theatre, the Goldfields, to renovate it for the extra business. The Cartier was closed because of wartime conditions and will be opened when things change.

Plans are being formulated now for the renovation of the Goldfields

(Continued on Page 5)

Everybody Will Get a Chance

The thoroughness of the Pulhem system of army medical examination, which rates recruits from toes to thatch, is causing considerable talk.

A soldier was commenting on it the other day and said something both funny and interesting.

"I've seen hundreds of fellows examined," he said, "and only one rejected. That one was a blind man with a Seeing Eye dog. The blind man was rejected because the Seeing Eye dog had flat feet!"

Some Camps Ask % Adjustments

Representatives of some army camps have asked for minor adjustments in individual cases of the percentage picture policy inaugurated June 1st. Several camps, it has been rumored, are asking a stay of policy until December 31st. Each distributor affected is considering the matter separately in accordance with his company's

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USA Film Carriers

Film carriers across the border have been made an A-3 priority by the USA government, which raises their position.

New NFB Editor

William Browne-Forbes, Toronto newsman, has been appointed assistant photo editor of the stills division, National Film Board. He was formerly with New World magazine.

Para Men Hold Annual Session

Paramount's annual Canadian convention, held at the King Edward Hotel, Toronto, last Friday and Saturday, heard Neil Agnew, Oscar Morgan and Bob Gillham outline the company's policies in their departments. Gordon Lightstone, Canadian general manager, presided.

Agnew, in charge of distribution, outlined product and sales policy

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Guss to Calgary

Bill Guss, formerly of the Toronto branch of Regal, has succeeded Harry Phillips as manager of the Calgary outlet. Phillips left to undertake the operation of a theatre at Dawson Creek.

Monogram of Canada Sees Bigger Biz

Harry Kaufman, Monogram's Canadian general manager, has announced that the company's 1943-44 schedule will contain 24 features and 16 Westerns. Kaufman will set the new sales policy soon and is preparing a First Anniversary Drive in Canada from October 4th to 11th.

The program was cut from 32 features last season, in line with the new policy of fewer pictures and larger budgets. Films on the list are, "Ground Crew," starring Jackie Cooper with Sam Levene; "Lady, Let's Dance," produced by Scott R. Dunlap and starring Belita, the skater, with

(Continued on Page 2)

M'Pherson, Doddridge In RKO Canada Shift

Joe McPherson, Calgary branch manager for RKO, has been transferred to Winnipeg, replacing Harry Woolfe, who has resigned.

The Calgary spot goes to R. J. Doddridge, formerly office manager, who was succeeded by Mrs. Laura Cotterall.

Sponsor and Architect

Mary Pickford, during a recent visit to Toronto, chats with Robert S. Hanks, architect of the Mary Pickford Bungalow in which shares are being sold to aid the Lion's British Child War Victims Fund, Telegram War Victims Fund and Maltese Relief.

Universal's Magic Musicals are the answer to the public's wartime worries and your box-office problems. These 13 will make a lucky number for you: 'How's About It,' 'Hi Buddy,' 'Hi Ya Chum,' 'He's My Guy,' 'It Comes Up Love,' 'Rhythm on the Islands,' 'Good Morning, Judge,' 'Follow the Band,' 'Cowboy in Manhattan,' 'All By Myself,' 'Girls, Inc.,' 'Second Honeymoon,' and 'Get Going.' Each one a festival.

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HYE BOSSIN, Managing Editor

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Have You Helped?

A good theatre man is not swept away by high pressure advertising to nearly the same extent as the ordinary citizen. He uses a sense of values sharpened by the experience of the years when he examines a film and detects whatever boxoffice worthiness there is. The fancy advertising phrases can't divert him from making a true estimate.

The Greek War Relief Fund, as in the case of a worthy but unadvertised film, need not fear that Canadian showmen will overlook it because it has been comparatively untrumpeted. The fact that Greece is out of the fight in a large way may have caused her early valor to be overlooked in the growing excitement caused by Allied successes.

But the needs of Greece today are greater than when she, with Britain, carried the hopes of the civilized world into battle. She might have rendered no military resistance, as was the case with other of our Allies, and been an honored partner in our common cause. But, unlike some lands, Greece committed herself to our cause before the storm broke and refused to compromise or falter, come what did and come what may. And the common English soldier will tell you more about the Greeks than all the rest.

Axis hatred of Greece's part in the war was shown last week when Mussolini refused an English request for the evacuation of starving Greek children to the British Isles. To have fought in a fashion that earned such a degraded form of enmity is a great tribute to Greece as an ally.

The best evidence that Greece has been somewhat overlooked is to be found in our own business. The struggles of every country but Greece have been depicted by Hollywood.

So if you haven't done something for Greek War Relief, do it now. It isn't too late. Below are available cuts for use in your advertising.

Starving Greeks are depending on you
Please send donation to
GREEK WAR RELIEF FUND
IN YOUR COMMUNITY
Or any Branch of the Royal Bank of Canada

Food is urgently needed in starving Greece
Please help. Send donation to GREEK WAR RELIEF FUND
IN YOUR COMMUNITY or any branch of the Royal Bank of Canada

Greece is depending on Canadian Food . . .
Send donation to GREEK WAR RELIEF FUND
IN YOUR COMMUNITY or Any branch of the Royal Bank of Canada

Help send food to Greece
Send donation to
GREEK WAR RELIEF FUND
IN YOUR COMMUNITY or Any branch of the Royal Bank of Canada

Sunday Shows? No, Says Canada

(Continued from Page 1)

showed a majority in favor.

Here's the poll according to age groups:

Age Group	Approve	Disapprove	Undecided
	%	%	%
21-29	63	32	5
30-39	54	40	6
40-49	38	56	6
50 and over	32	63	5

This is how it went according to cities and smaller centres:

	10,000 pop. and Over	Under 10,000
	%	%
Approve	56	36
Disapprove	39	57
Undecided	5	7

The suggestion of Sunday shows for the duration only altered the opinions of few. Canadians in every walk of life were asked how they felt about it.

Monogram Offers 40 for 1943-44

(Continued from Page 1)

Frick and Frack; "Spotlight Revue," with Billy Gilbert, Frank Fay and Bonnie Baker; "Hitler's Women," produced by Herman Millakowsky; "Charlie Chan in the Secret Service," with Sidney Toler; "Melody Parade," with Mary Beth Hughes, Eddie Quillan and Tim and Irene; "The Honor System," starring the East Side Kids, and "Black Beauty," Anna Sewall's famous story of a horse.

Eight westerns to be produced by Scott Dunlap will star Johnny Mack Brown and Raymond Hatton. Robert Tansey will produce eight "Trail Blazers," starring Ken Maynard and Hoot Gibson.

Monogram of Canada is having the best year in its history, a reflection of the easier salability of the company's product as well as the increased pep of the distribution since Hanson, Kaufman and crew took over. The company just opened its own building in Calgary, on 6th Avenue across from the old Film Exchange. Max Phillet is the manager.

Monogram Studios have acquired additional property in Hollywood for future expansion.

Flora Robson Goes Back to Britain

Flora Robson has completed her role in "Saratoga Trunk" at the Warner Bros. studio and after a short stage engagement on the West Coast will return to England to appear in Government sponsored theatrical productions. She expects to return to Hollywood at the termination of the war.

Para Men Hold Annual Session

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for the coming season, pointing out the great boxoffice potentialities of such pictures as "For Whom the Bell Tolls," "Dixie," "The Story of Dr. Wassell" and "Frenchman's Creek," "Hostages," and "And the Angels Sing." The first three are in Technicolor.

Oscar Morgan, head of Short Subjects, cleared the air on shorts, announcing that there would be more extensive use of color in the new list and a predominance of escapist entertainment. Bob Gillham, chief of publicity and advertising, discussed the campaigns planned for each of the pictures and the company in general.

The Canadian head, Lightstone, led a discussion on the industry's problems in Canada at the moment, such as the labor shortage, etc.

The Toronto delegation consisted of Gordon Lightstone, W. J. O'Neil and Win Barron. Delegates from the Ontario branch were Jack Hunter, Leo Haag, Harold Pfaff, Ambrose Theurer and Bob Murphy.

Delegates here from other parts of the country were Russell Simpson, Vancouver; Pat Hogan, St. John; Bill Kelly, Calgary; Tom Dowbiggen, Montreal, and Dave Brickman, Winnipeg.

The annual dinner took place on Friday evening, at which the Paramount men were joined by guests from Famous Players, among them J. J. Fitzgibbons, president, Rube Bolstad, Ben Geldsaler and Morris Stein.

Really Sissies!

Jim Nairn, in the FPC "What's New," notes that a downtown Toronto marquee advertised Frankenstein Meets the Wolf Man and It Comes Up Love.

VOCALITE
Crystal Beaded
SOUND SCREEN
Doubles the Brightness of the Projected Light
Sold in Canada by
PERKINS ELECTRIC COMPANY LIMITED
277 VICTORIA STREET TORONTO — 3697 ST. LAURENT BOULEVARD MONTREAL

THE PICK OF THE PICTURES

Canadian Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

REVIEWS INFORMATION RATINGS

Vol. 8, No. 27 COAST-TO-COAST COVERAGE June 30, 1943

'Lily Mars' and 'Spitfire'

Goldwyn Stays With RKO

Samuel Goldwyn has signed a new distribution contract with RKO to continue releasing his pictures through the company in the coming year, it was announced by Peter Rathvon, president.

First film to be released under the new agreement is "The North Star," from Lillian Hellman's original screenplay, directed by Lewis Milestone with Anne Baxter, Walter Brennan, Walter Huston, Ann Harding, Dana Andrews, Jane Withers and Erich von Stroheim. Two other releases slated for RKO distribution are a Technicolor musical comedy, "Up in Arms," starring Danny Kaye, and a Bob Hope pirate comedy, "Treasure Chest."

During the past year RKO distributed five Goldwyn pictures, "The Little Foxes," "Ball of Fire," "Pride of the Yankees," "They Got Me Covered" and the new British-made film, "Spitfire," starring Leslie Howard and David Niven.

Ned Depinet, commenting on the new agreement, declared: "The consistent high quality of Mr. Goldwyn's productions is such that RKO has been happy to release them in the past and is gratified that this association is to continue. Mr. Goldwyn has an unequalled record of individually-produced hits. Due to the high standards of the producer, every Samuel Goldwyn picture is an event which has made him recognized as one of the great creative leaders of this industry."

Fairly Drops Suit Over Stock Sale

An action brought by Gordon D. Fairley, St. Catharines, in non-jury assize court, against Mrs. Martha E. Hanson and her husband, Oscar Hanson, for specific performance of a purported contract to sell all the stock of Sterling Films, Ltd., and Foto-Nite Distributors, Ltd., came to a sudden end last week. T. M. Mungovan, counsel for plaintiff, announced to Mr. Justice Roach that he was abandoning the action. G. W. Mason, for defendants, said he was not asking for costs. Mr. Justice Roach dismissed the action without costs.

'Lily Mars' Good Garland Picture Leslie Howard Fine in 'Spitfire'

"PRESENTING LILY MARS"
REGAL
(Running Time: 106 Minutes)

There isn't anything original about "Presenting Lily Mars" and few will care, since all Judy Garland needs to keep her following in line are a few pathos and considerable singing. She gives her fans all that and more in this rags-to-riches backstage story.

With its usual lavish hand Metro gave Miss Garland's appearance plenty of protection against boxoffice uncertainty, throwing in the immensely popular Van Heflin, Tommy Dorsey and His Orchestra and Bob Crosby and His Orchestra. A few final dashes of flavoring in the persons of Fay Bainter, Richard Carlson, Spring Byington, Martha Eggerth, Leonid Kinsky and Ray McDonald and you have a highly palatable cinematic dish with something for everyone's taste.

Garland is a show-crazy small-town kid who schemes to have Van Heflin, famous Broadway producer on a visit home, catch her routines. He does and passes her up. She barges into his show in New York and is given a job. When star trouble develops with Eggerth, Garland steps in. In the meantime love has seeped through.

Though the picture lacks the snap of previous Garland vehicles, the semi-skinny star warbles in the same appealing style. Production, music, acting and photography make up for the unoriginality of the story and its beating around the bush. There's no question about the entertainment quality of the film and that's all that matters. It's not as humorous as it should be but it's homey and friendly.

Only novelty in the story is that Garland, understudy of Eggerth, flops when asked to pinch-hit. But Van Heflin gives her the top spot in his next show and she succeeds in making her dreams come true.

The studio might have allowed her dreams to come true about a half-hour earlier and had a neater picture. But who cares? Nobody's got any place to go these days.

"SPITFIRE"
RKO
(Running Time: 90 Minutes)

A fine and sincere story, one in keeping with the character of Leslie Howard's own life, is this one, perhaps his last picture. And though it moves slowly it is deliberate and knows where it's going every minute. In other words, the story is told in a way that makes supreme good sense. The title should help to attract attention.

"Spitfire" is the biography of the man who built the plane of that name, an instrument of war considered to have saved Britain what the Italians and Germans are experiencing now.

Howard is shown as a quiet, determined plane designer who creates an unorthodox plane in the face of opposition and is vindicated when it wins the international trophy in Italy. Later, while visiting Germany with his test pilot, David Niven, he is entertained by Nazis and learns of their plans for conquest via the air.

He then returns to England to impress on government officials and military men the need of building a fighting plane that will match those of the Nazis. Those who sympathize with him have a hard time finding enough money to help. But Howard gets under way and wins in a race against time, though it breaks his health and leads to an early death.

Howard does a splendid job and gets fine support from David Niven, who proves himself worthy of serious roles. The latter plays the gay blade often enough to provide good contrast for the sober personality of Howard. Rosamund John, as Howard's wife, offers a sympathetic portrayal. A fine cast builds it into an excellent film.

The sad news about Leslie Howard, the return of David Niven, and the fact that "Spitfire" is a war film without the elements of horror common to so many films of late may make up for its leisurely pace. It's doubtful if anyone will not find this film interesting.

Small Makes 5 at $6,000,000 Cost

Production of five feature films with a budget of more than $6,000,000 was announced by Edward Small for the 1943-44 season. United Artists will handle the distribution.

The schedule was announced after a year and a half of research through which Small obtained a variety of outstanding scripts and stories. After being held up by previous cast commitments, Small's first picture will go before the cameras early next month. Story is the Book-of-the-Month selection "The Raft," by Robert Trumbull, which appeared in condensed version in Reader's Digest and Coronet and was widely syndicated in many daily papers. Small is trying to get William Bendix for one of the leading roles.

Most expensive production on the schedule will be "Big Time," a musical starring Ed Wynn with an all-star cast. Name bands and top radio talent will be featured. Small, whose ability to handle Alexander Dumas classics was proven by the success of "Monte Cristo" and the "Corsican Brothers," will film an adaptation of "Cagliostro," famous Dumas thriller.

Small is negotiating with several top male stars for the leading part in "The Life of Valentino," which he will produce on a $2,000,000 budget.

Present plans are for United Artists to have three complete pictures at the start of the new season.

Paramount Payoff Big Last Year

Claudette Colbert was paid $360,000 by Paramount Pictures, Inc., of New York, for her services during 1942, the company's annual report to the Securities & Exchange Commission showed.

Fred MacMurray, actor, received $347,333, and Bing Crosby $336,111. Crosby also was paid $298,946 by Decca Records, Inc., during 1942, according to a Decca report filed a few days ago.

Twenty-three officials and directors of Paramount received a total of more than $1,000,000 during the year, the report said.

MONOGRAM PC PICTURES

OF CANADA LTD.

277 Victoria St.
Toronto

PIONEER

THE 39 STEPS
Madeleine Carrol
Robert Donat

•

THUNDER OVER THE CITY
Edward G. Robinson

•

MICKEY THE GREAT
Mickey Rooney

★

MONOGRAM

I ESCAPED FROM THE GESTAPO
Dean Jagger, Mary Brian, John Carradine

•

STRANGER FROM PECOS
Johnny Mack Brown

•

SPY TRAIN
Richard Travis
Catherine Craig

•

SARONG GIRL
Ann Corio

•

Distributed in Canada through

MONOGRAM PICTURES

Toronto, Montreal, St. John
Winnipeg, Calgary, Vancouver

Call Him Gypsy Bill

If ever the Gypsies change their ancient customs and costumes, which have remained the same for many centuries, it will be the fault of Bill Harper and the movies.

Bill manages the Ace Theatre in downtown Toronto. The Gypsies like the place and the kind of movies shown there. So they come to the theatre in their spangles, bangles and jangles. Gypsies, being among the most uninhibited people alive, give vent to their emotions out loud.

The other day he heard some bangles jangling during a musical short. There was a Gypsy dancing in the aisles. They're noisy otherwise also, carrying on between each other and all together when something on the screen captures their collective fancy.

Added to that, they make the customers nervous, many a one hastily transferring his wallet into an inside pocket when he finds a Gypsy is his neighbor.

So mild-mannered Bill gave them a right royal talking to and barred them for a while, demanding first a change in their ancient costume.

Now they come dressed like the rest of us and keep quiet. Suspiciously quiet. Let's hope they don't make off with the projection equipment one of these days.

* * *

People Come and People Go—

Living accommodations are particularly hard to obtain in Oshawa, home of war-winning vehicles. So Mel Jolley is using his advantages as a showman to help solve the problem. Mel, manager of the Marks, is running Foto Nite. The other week he offered $200 for the first name chosen, $150 for the second—and $10 for any information leading to the rental of an apartment! . . . The Midtown double bill last week raised the eyebrows of marquee readers who think along certain lines. The marquee advertised She Has What It Takes and It Ain't Hay. . . . Wilf Freeman, local boy who plays bit parts in Hollywood under the name of William Dudley, is in town for a spell. Wilf, last seen here in "Blossoms in the Dust," just got his discharge from the USArmy. . . . Farmer Frank Meyers of EBA, a country boy who has been showing the city slickers a thing or two for a long time now, rivals Scattergood Baines in homely philosophy. He gets off many a good saying, one of his favorites being: "One hand washes the other—and both wash the face." . . . Don Quick, part time cashier of the Royal, Bowmanville, often has to look up from his books to sell a ticket. So Don just led his form and has been praised as one of the brightest pupils in the school.

* * *

The Coming of Age

While it is popularly said that the motion picture industry, especially Hollywood, hasn't grown up yet, the closing of a theatre often causes sentimental farewells.

Last week in Elmira, Ontario, Howard Schedewitz, still in the movie business, sold the old Regent Theatre, scene of many happy hours in that hamlet. The new owner acquired the property and the contents of the theatre are being sold now. The building will be used for things other than theatrical.

The passing of the Regent from the life of the community brought reminiscences and regrets from the citizens. The coming of sound caused it to stop playing pictures in 1930. The countryside being inhabited largely by Dunkers, Mennonites and others whose religious principles were against movie-going, it was considered a bad investment of the additional money required to convert it.

In other days the house was crowded with people enjoying themselves with "The Cohens and Kellys," "The Sea Hawk," "The Ten Commandments" and all the celluloid landmarks. For 25 or so years it was a popular place.

The Regent will be missed, as it was the only place large enough to accommodate a local gathering of extra size.

Some Camps Ask % Adjustments

(Continued from Page 1)

business policy.

The officers making the requests are said to regard the percentage policy as fair but its operation at this time was knocking certain plans askew. The revenue of military theatres is used for recreational purposes, such as the building of bowling alleys and athletic courts, and the sudden reduction in money available for such schemes has upset things somewhat. Commitments were based on revenue from theatres before the new policy went into effect. They would like a temporary adjustment in order to keep their arrangements.

A meeting was held in Toronto last week between the interested parties, at which Wolfe Cohen, general manager of Vitagraph in Canada, was chairman. Among those on hand were Brigadier James Mess and Captain Gurston Allen, for the army; Flying Officer R. C. Vaughan, for the RCAF; Sub Lieutenant Oakley, for the Royal Canadian Navy; Flying Officer Lang of Camp Borden; and Squadron Leader Lamport of Jarvis.

The percentage method was used by England and the USA long before Canada.

Halifax Houses Collect Books

Bob Roddick, always prominent in war effort work, has been collecting magazines for the services and his work has won him well-deserved appreciation.

The Halifax theatres have contribution chests in their lobbies with cards on them inviting the public to bring their old magazines to the theatres for collection and distribution to the men in the services.

In a letter from the Central Magazine Exchange in Halifax, Mrs. F. H. M. Jones, the chairman, expressed that organization's appreciation for the co-operation of the theatres. She wrote:

"May we take this opportunity of thanking you personally, and your associates, for the valuable help that they have given to our organization by allowing your theatre to become a central collecting point for magazines.

"Could you suggest any way that the public at large be asked to make more regular contributions of their up to date issues? One order for destroyers and corvettes alone requires about 4,000 magazines. The majority of this number proceed overseas, and because of time lost in transit we try not to give them magazines older than six weeks."

Renovation for Timmins House

(Continued from Page 1)

Theatre. The first improvement to be made there is the installation of a plastic moulded screen, the first of its kind to be installed in Timmins. This is an especially improved type of screen on which movie-goers may view undistorted pictures from any seat in the theatre. Odd angles from the screen will have no effect upon the contour of the image.

Other improvements to be made at the Goldfields include the renovation of the theatre front and lobby and other general improvements inside the theatre. The whole plan being laid down for this movie house, the second largest in Timmins, is aimed at putting this theatre on a par with the other motion picture houses in town as a correct setting for the best products of the Hollywood film lots.

Charlottetown Navy For "In Which"

G. A. Walters handled the showing of "In Which We Serve" at his Prince Edward Theatre, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, in big-time fashion. Naval authorities proclaimed a Naval Week and everyone in town joined enthusiastically.

Merchants co-operated in putting in several full pages of ads on the idea and opening night was marked by a Navy Guard of Honor to greet the Governor-General and other dignitaries. Windows boosted the picture and event by featuring pictures of local lads in the Navy.

Universal Purchases 'Inner Sanctum' Title

Screen rights to the title of "Inner Sanctum," popular radio mystery show, have been bought by Universal from Simon and Schuster. "Calling Dr. Death," an original story by Edward Dein, has been purchased for the first film, which will star Lon Chaney Jr. and Gale Sondergaard.

Gallop Into Navy

Frank Gallop, manager of the Vogue, Sydney, Nova Scotia, is now in training as a sub lieutenant in the Royal Canadian Navy.

Judy Canova to Leave Republic

When her present contract expires, Judy Canova will leave Republic studios where she has been a feature player for three years. The studio took her from the radio networks and built her up as a hillbilly comedienne. Her last Republic film was "Chatterbox," with Joe E. Brown.

An important reminder

about

YOUR INCOME TAX RETURNS

JUNE 30th

IS THE DEADLINE

for

A All 1942 Individual T. 1 Returns.

B All 1942 Excess Profits Tax Returns of Proprietorships and Partnerships.

C All 1942 T. 2 Income and Excess Profits Tax Returns by Corporations whose fiscal year ended 31st December, 1942.

EMPLOYERS

HAVE YOU given your employees their copies of your T. 4 Supplementary slips, so that they may complete and make their Income Tax Returns by the 30th of June?

MAKE RETURNS NOW — AVOID PENALTIES

DOMINION OF CANADA — DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL REVENUE

INCOME TAX DIVISION

COLIN GIBSON, *Minister of National Revenue*

C. FRASER ELLIOTT, *Commissioner of Income Tax*

Industry Studies Peace Problems

Major studio meetings are being held to study the position of the industry when the present record boom subsides to normal pre-war conditions. Executives and exhibitors are considering the framing of policies and the setting up of machinery to handle expected changes.

Barney Balaban, Paramount head, Spyros Skouras of 20th Century-Fox, and Peter Rathvon, president of RKO, have been named as a committee to keep the industry informed on the many subjects which are provoking thought and comment among theatre men.

Aside from expected expansion in foreign markets, the industry is talking and thinking about the "fewer and better" production policy, the re-introduction of the single feature because of the raw stock shortage, and the trend of boxoffice prices.

Demobilization at the end of the war will cause an upset in employment and consequent additional theatre attendance. It is felt that admission prices will have to be adjusted to keep the present high rate of theatre attendance. Reduction in the number of releases is being closely watched.

Major studios will release old pictures featuring stars in the services to keep them alive in the public mind and to introduce them to new film fans.

Company presidents and sales and theatre department heads are closely examining every possible angle to ensure the post-war future of the motion picture business.

Dieppe Raid Pictured

The famous Dieppe raid will be enacted in MGM's coming film, "The White Cliffs of Dover."

CHAIR Maintenance

Conserve your theatre chairs for comfort and appearance. They may have to last quite a while longer before replacements are available.

•

Consult us for re-upholstering, painting, tightening, anchoring standards, etc.

•

Our factory-trained mechanics will go anywhere in Canada.

CANADIAN THEATRE CHAIR CO.

277 Victoria St., Toronto, Ont.

Producers Releasing Corporation
M. J. Allen, President

ALEXANDER KORDA
Presents

Sanders of the River

With the Golden Voice of

Paul Robeson

Story by
EDGAR WALLACE

With
Leslie Banks
Nina Mae McKinney
and a cast of thousands

★

The most amazing thriller makes new boxoffice records

—

You Must See
CORREGIDOR

—

Producers Releasing Corporation
LIMITED
Executive Offices:
277 Victoria St., Toronto, 2, Ont.

Television Set for Peacetime Sweep

Television is pacing victory and it has become apparent that it will sweep the amusement field shortly after the war is won. Just how it will affect motion picture entertainment, supplementing or rivalling it, is not clear yet. The studios, however, have come to accept it as inevitable and are preparing as much as possible for the day when the relationship of television to theatre entertainment must be determined.

Motion picture executives are distinctly not asleep. A number of studios and theatre chains have stepped into field and made preliminary arrangements. Experimental licenses are held by Balaban & Katz, a USA theatre chain; the Allen B. DuMont Laboratories., a Paramount affiliate; RCA and General Electric, which companies have film connections, and others.

Both 20th Century-Fox and Paramount are large stockholders in the Scophony Corporation of America, headed by Arthur Levey, and the company is going straight ahead for the day of change. RKO and MGM are said to have a finger or two in the television pie.

Television was given its first theatre tryout at the Rialto, New York, in May, 1941, before a full house and it was hailed as highly successful.

Back in 1935 D. E. Aylesworth, then president of both the National Broadcasting Company and RKO, predicted that it would be only a matter of months before television revolutionized the entertainment world. Now William Baltin of DuMont announces that because of the newest laboratory developments "television will electrify the amusement world after the war, in the same manner as talking pictures did when they were introduced 15 years ago."

Just how theatres will get the television "product" has everyone guessing. If the screen fare is projected from a central source, in the manner of radio, it will upset the structure of exhibition and distribution as we know it today. Nor is it known what changes in theatre construction will be made necessary. It may be that those theatres erected during the building boom that will follow the war will have the advantage.

From here television seems a hybrid art, a cross between films and radio. The custodians of both parent arts are each anxious to control the future of the offspring. At the same time there is a distinct group of televisionists who want to be its legal guardians.

The three-cornered race for a place in post-war entertainment should cause the biggest amusement boom since motion pictures captured the public fancy.

But exhibitors and studios have their defences ready while scouts range far afield to examine the territory and what it hides.

Pat Drohan's Son In England

Flight Sergeant Arthur Drohan, son of popular Pat Drohan, manager of the Capitol, Chatham, Ontario, has arrived in England. He's the second of Pat's boys in the services.

Columbia Has Record Agenda

Columbia announces the biggest Summer production schedule in its history. Fourteen features will be shooting between now and Fall, in addition to two serials and several comedies. A number of the studio's top productions are set for rolling within the next few weeks, including "Cover Girl," Rita Hayworth starred in Technicolor, which Arthur Schwartz produces, Charles Vidor directing. "Tropicana," with Victor Moore, Bill Gaxton and Mae West, produced by Gregory Ratoff and Harry Goetz, with Ratoff directing. "Mr. Winkle Goes to War," a Harold Lloyd production, and "My Client Curley," which is being readied as a Cary Grant starring vehicle.

Now in the last stages of preparation are "Life of Al Jolson," which Sidney Skolsky will produce, "Ten Percent Woman," Rosalind Russell vehicle, and "Heart of a City," which co-stars Rita Hayworth and Janet Blair in a screen adaptation of the celebrated play about a little theatre during the London 1940 Blitz.

Also on the Columbia program are "There's Something About a Soldier," O. C. S. training story which will be filmed largely on location in North Carolina; "Footlight Glamor," latest in the Arthur Lake - Penny Singleton "Blondie" series; "When My Baby Smiles At Me" Ted Lewis feature; "Doughboys in Ireland," A. E. F. musical about the men in Service overseas, "Jam Session," all-band production which will feature a number of top-name orchestras, leading radio entertainers and singers; "Nine Girls," mystery comedy with an all feminine cast, and "The Gamble of Boston Blackie," which Wallace MacDonald will produce.

20th-Fox Lot Is A Busy Place

In the two remaining months before the end of the 1942-43 season, 20th Century-Fox will have completed enough product to give the company a 30 per cent head-start on next year's total output. Ten films are being edited and scored awaiting release and four additional pictures will be finished soon. The stages will be busy with four films during July.

Completed films in or near release, part of the biggest backlog in this studio's history, are Ernst Lubitsch's Technicolor comedy, "Heaven Can Wait"; "Jane Eyre"; "Coney Island"; "Claudia"; "Holy Matrimony," directed by John Stahl and produced by Nunnally Johnson; "Sweet Rosie O'Grady," Technicolor musical; "Stormy Weather," Negro musical produced by William LeBaron; "Bomber's Moon," produced by Sol Wurtzel; Lee Marcus' "Roger Touhy, the Last of the Gangsters"; and a Laurel and Hardy comedy, "Jitterbugs."

Films nearly ready include "The Song of Bernadette," directed by Henry King; a Sonja Henie ice-musical, "Wintertime," produced by William LeBaron, and "The Night Is Ending," produced by Andre Daven and directed by Leonid Moguy.

Three other films are now before the cameras and the company will start four more before July 19.

Funny Man Holtz Signed by MGM

MGM has signed Lou Holtz, noted comedian, to a two-way contract under which he will act as actor and producer for one year. When he's not acting he'll be co-producing with Arthur Freed. "Zeigfeld Follies" will be his first acting job. The contract starts when Holtz finishes an eastern tour July 6th.

Columbia Has Strong Financial Report

Net profit for Columbia Pictures Corporation for the first 39 weeks of the company's fiscal year was $1,032,000 as compared with $942,000 in the same period last year. The gain is equal to $2.39 per common share as compared with $2.15 in the corresponding period a year ago.

The company's operating profit before taxes was more than double last year's sum, amounting to $3,320,000 as against $1,590,000 last year. The tax increase comes to $1,600,000, being $2,280,000 in the first three quarters ending March this year as against $648,000 in the previous period.

Studios Plan for Post-War Themes

Leading Hollywood producers are looking over the literary market for stories with post-war themes with a view to presenting films that will stimulate discussion on post-war planning. Some studios, in an attempt to get away from war pictures and the current escapist cycle, have already bought such material and one company is planning to go into production soon.

The new trend is shown by the heavy bids put up by major studios for Wendell Willkie's book "One World," which deals with future problems. Although there has been no pressure from the USA government in this direction, the news that 20th Century-Fox intends to make a film based on the life of Woodrow Wilson was lauded by the American Office of War Information.

Paramount has acquired "The Time Is Now," by Stanley Paley and assigned Walter MacEwen to produce. Sam Bischoff will produce "Lebensraum" for Columbia and former FBI man John Metcalfe is working on a story for Columbia.

Warners, 20th Century-Fox and RKO are all interested in this new cycle although they have not yet experimented with it. Universal and MGM are not enthusiastic over the idea. MGM doesn't want to take a chance on anything unless it has strong entertainment value.

The studios want to handle general subjects which will provoke thought on post-war problems and also entertain the public. It is felt that pictures on what will happen after the surrender of the Japs and the Fascists will not only take the place of war stories, of which the public is getting tired, but they will also keep the escapist cycle within bounds.

Duncan Resigns

Norman Duncan, who managed the Strand, Vancouver, has been succeeded by S. Pooley, transferred by Famous Players from the Kerrisdale, Vancouver. John F. Elkins replaces Pooley.

Universal Announces Big '43-44 List

Universal will release 55 features, seven Westerns, 67 shorts and 104 newsreels for 1943-44, William Scully has announced. Of the features five will be superspecials and five in Technicolor. Last week Scully said that no pictures will be held out to miss the summer.

Leslie Howard, missing after the plane he was travelling in was shot down by the Nazis, did more than any single person to break down the prejudices of Americans toward his countrymen. The mild-mannered star was uncompromisingly British in accent and manner. He did not take on American characteristics, like so many English actors in Hollywood, yet became the most popular of any. Howard, who was 50 years old, was the son of a London stock broker but would have none of his father's business and entered the theatre after being invalided out of the British Army in 1918. His most recent film was "Spitfire," a story of the invention of that plane. It has been predicted that British film production will rival that of Hollywood after the war. If that becomes so, Leslie Howard, actor, producer and writer, will have been the main reason.

* * *

Marguerite Chapman, who is coming up fast, ran a switchboard and tapped a typewriter in an office until she got tired of hearing folks tell her that she ought to be in pictures. So she got a job as a model with John Powers and shortly after Hollywood sent for her. Since then she has been in a score of films and her next two, "Destroyer" and "Assignment in Berlin," will make her a No. 1 star. Her four brothers are in the American Army. . . . Add to the wind, snow and rain machines used to create film weather a new one, the cloud cooker. This one creates and blows clouds along the ground, making the actors appear to be floating through space. . . . Binnie Barnes used to do a rope-twirling act in English music halls, where she was known as "Texas Binnie Barnes."

* * *

Bing Crosby, who sang his way into the big money, earned $298,946 as his share of the cash his records brought last year. Whenever a new Crosby picture is announced the public wants to know what songs he will sing. Bing's next film is "Dixie," a Technicolor history of the black-faced minstrels, and in it he will offer ten songs. Seven of these are new, the other three such famed old favorites as "Dixie," "Turkey in the Straw" and "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot." . . . A new star has emerged. He's 17-year-old Donald O'Connor, who started out as Crosby's kid brother in "Sing, You Sinners," a 1938 production. Universal let an impartial theatre audience have an unexpected look at a film called "Mr. Big." Its reaction was such that the studio right away signed young O'Connor to a long-term contract. There isn't anything Donald can't do, since he was born into a theatrical family and got on the stage at the age of six months.

* * *

Snow White and Prince Charming are suing Walt Disney for $200,000. The fairy tale pair say they agreed to allow Disney the use of their voices for the film only but that he extended it to records, for which they got nothing. Adriana Caselotti and Harry Stockwell did the talking and singing in the film. . . . The Dieppe raid will be enacted for the film version of "The White Cliffs of Dover," which will be made at a cost of $1,500,000. Perhaps Canada will get a better break here than it did in the newsreels, which showed Dieppe mainly as an American operation. . . . It takes strong stuff to scare people today. So one studio will make "Chamber of Horrors," which will feature Dracula, The Wolf Man, Frankenstein, and all the rest of that horrible crew.

Films to Help Bad Juveniles

Though movie makers rarely use their own medium to make things easier for themselves, they are about to see what the screen can do to soften some of the frequent accusations that the motion picture today influences children unduly. Unruly kids have caused critics to point fingers at the industry and the more violent among the juveniles have raised hob with seats, receptacles and other items of theatre equipment.

So important has the problem of juvenile vandalism become that some of the USA exhibitors association have committees to deal with it. Several such committees have prevailed on several major studios to treat the problem in filmic fashion.

Both Paramount and 20th Century-Fox have expressed a willingness to join in a screen campaign that would have a healthy influence on the kids and point out the seriousness of their indiscretions. Neil Agnew of Paramount is submitting an idea to government authorities and Tom Connors of 20th-Fox is considering the issuance of shorts along suggested lines. Several other studios are also interested.

The first title has been announced by Arthur Landau, an Independent producer, as "Battle on the Home Front," and religious and civic organizations have approved of the idea.

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